

FEBRUARY 15, 1808.

Read the first and second time, and committed to a committee of the whole house,
on Wednesday next.

A Bill,

To amend an act, intituled “An act for laying and collecting duties on imports and tonnage within the territories ceded to the United States, by the treaty of the thirtieth of April, one thousand eight hundred and three, between the United States and the French republic; and for other purposes.”



1 *BE it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the*
2 *United States of America, in congress assembled, That from and after*
3 *the passing of this act, no duty shall be demanded or collected on*
4 *merchandise of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United*
5 *States, or of any foreign country transported coastwise, between*
6 *the district of Mobile and any of the other ports of the United*
7 *States, although landed at the town of Mobile, or its vicinity, on*
8 *its passage: Provided, That the same would not be subject to duty*
9 *or liable to seizure, if transported from one district of the United*
10 *States, on the sea coast, to another: And provided likewise, That*

11 no debenture for a drawback shall have been issued upon the ex-
12 port of such merchandise from the United States to any foreign
13 port or place ; and to the end, as well that frauds on the revenue
14 may be prevented, as that the coasting vessels of the United States
15 may be permitted to participate in the said trade, the secretary of
16 the treasury, with the approbation of the president, is hereby au-
17 thorized to prescribe and establish such forms and regulations, and
18 the same from time to time, with the like approbation, to alter and
19 amend, for the government of the officers of the customs in this
20 respect, as he may think proper and necessary ; on the observance
21 of which, merchandise thus transported shall be exempted from
22 duty ; and it shall be lawful for the coasting vessels of the United
23 States to be employed in the said trade, and not otherwise.